Pawlet April 12th 1828

Our dear Ma and Julia

Saturday has arrived:
and O that I could greet ~~that~~ our dear family circle. but ~~by~~ that pleasure is denied me. —
I presume you would like the particulars of my journey — I will relate them. I found my company quite agreeable — and after arriving found his name to be Joseph Upham — Mr Edgerton's clerk — before we arrived at the old mansion and on the hill the snow began to descend most profusely and we were obliged to be active, in order to keep ourselves aboveboard — we however arrived in safety and without taking cold. Monday morning repaired to my schoolroom found four scholars — spent the day quite busily with them. tuesday, one added. tuesday afternoon, Mr. Fitch returned and Mrs. F quite comforted me, telling me that she taught here ten days with but three scholars wednesday was past, — I saw ... graves she informed me of the death of ... it did not at all surprise me. Thursday my school was increased to the number of eight. Friday and saturday the same. — Monday I expect two from Sandgate. "Oh that I might be faithful to them ~~...~~ and teach them to walk in the paths of virtue and happiness. could I answer their expectations I ~~...~~ think I ~~should~~ should be satisfied — but it causes sleepless hours, and tearful eyes to think how far I shall fall short of it — you may wish to know how I am pleased with my employment when my scholars are dutiful, and studious, & and things go a little as I wish I am in my elements. but when they are disobedient and slothful, it makes me have the hypo. Dear Julia think a great deal next week and against saturday be ready to tell me what to do with bad girls — it makes me shudder to think of correcting them — and be so kind as to devise a better plan — — —
I think I shall be at home next saturday but do not know how unless I can depend upon John to bring me ~~home~~ back. I shall very much want my trunk and boots Adieu.
love to all.

With ... Ann

from your affectionate
daughter Maria

we found Mr. & Mrs. Fitch, well, and Eliza's daughter absent which, I found my a very happy circumstance.

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Mrs Mary P. Fisher

Rupert